IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

S. KONDO, et al.

Application No.:

Rule 53(b) of No. 10/441,063

Filed:

April 16, 2004

For:

POLISHING METHOD

Expected

Group:

2812

Expected

Examiner:

B. Tran

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 April 16, 2004

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, as listed in the following, and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Specification; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.